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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th June 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd June writes :—

The battle of Tsushima. We rejoice at the quite unprecedented success of Japan in the late naval fight. Where is the oriental nation that will not feel a distinct pleasure and pride at this victory won by another oriental nation? Japan has now conferred lustre on the East, and broken through the spell which the West had so long cast on the East. This is what has made us glad. But at the same time we cannot refuse our tribute of sympathy to the mighty Czar of all the Russias when we consider His Majesty's present condition. Russia aided India in many ways during the dark days of the last Indian famine, so we owe a debt of gratitude to Russia. Another bond of our sympathy with the Czar lies in the fact that His Majesty is connected by near ties of blood with King Edward VII. But the strongest ground of sympathy is afforded by a contemplation of the difference between the Czar's present and his past lot. Who can regard without regret the sight of a once mighty Emperor now almost rolling in the dust? Who can contemplate unmoved the sight of a tower which rose up to the very skies now levelled to the ground?

The naval fight of Tsushima will henceforth be ranked as one of the most memorable events in the history of the world. All the European papers now agree that Admiral Togo, by smashing up the powerful Russian fleet, has won the same undying fame that Nelson won by fighting against the French Power at Trafalgar. Such a complete defeat of a Western Power at the hands of an Eastern race is a unique event in the world's history. To Japan will belong the eternal fame of this unparalleled and unexpected achievement. Japan's victories have conferred a lustre on all Asia, and have shaken the belief in the Asiatic mind as to the invulnerability of the European, and her example of what may be achieved by an Asiatic race by sheer perseverance will act as an incentive, so far as all weaker Asiatic Powers are concerned, to a new life of vigour and strenuous striving after duty.

2. In discussing the prospect of a Russian invasion of India through

The defence of India against Afghanistan, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th June makes the following remarks :—

The English will not be able to save India either with the help of the Afghans or the English soldiers. They will be compelled one day to recognize the necessity of teaching the use of arms to the Indians, for when the innumerable Indians will be armed, no foreign enemy will dare advance towards India, which will then alone be invincible, but the English people do not trust the Indians for the fear lest they might turn the former out of the country.

3. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th June writes :—

The defence of India. The Indian Government has been greatly upset by the military preparations of Russia. But in spite of its utmost efforts, the Indian Government will never be able to collect five or six lakhs of soldiers in a short space of time. This it is which alarms our rulers so much. England of course will do everything in her power to protect India from a foreign enemy, but it is a question how far her efforts in that direction will be successful. If Russia ever succeeds in extending her line of railways from Khusk, their present terminus, on to Herat and Kandahar, it will be easier for her to attack India than for the English to defend it. At present the one serious obstacle to Russia in her designs on India is Afghanistan. The present Amir is credited with a desire for a port in Baluchistan. The English Government has not shown itself favourable to the Amir's aspirations in this matter, but the Russian Government might somehow or other aid His Highness in realizing his ambition, and in that event it is not at all unreasonable to suppose that Russia might in return get the Amir's promise of aid in her attack on India.

The experience of the Russo-Turkish war shows that the Russian Government is an adept in the art of winning over ruling princes and their armies by means of bribes. If Russia promises to grant the Amir a port on the Persian Gulf on condition that she is allowed a free passage of her forces

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 2nd, 1905.

HITAVARTA,
June 4th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 5th, 1905.

through the Amir's territory on their way to India, it will not be easy for the Amir to resist the tempting offer.

The conclusion of all this is, that there can be no reliable defence of India unless the assistance of the Indian people is enlisted on the side of the Indian Government. At present, the total armed strength at the disposal of the Indian Commander-in-Chief numbers about 300,000 heads more or less. How long can a force of this numerical strength stand against the five or six lakhs which Russia may muster at the gates of India any moment, having previously take care to win over the Amir's support by promising him the territory of Baluchistan?

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 6th, 1905.

4. The same paper of the 6th June writes as follows:—

It is the Indians who will have in the long run India's helplessness. to defend India if she is attacked by a foreign foe. No one else will be able to defend her. But it is a matter of regret that our Government does not trust us, and instead of giving us the necessary training, intends to take the help of another Power in defending the country. Since the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, Government has not seen its way to trust the people. It is supplying foreigners like the Pathans and Afghans with arms and ammunition, whilst keeping us disarmed. We shall never hesitate to say that the Government of India has acted in the most indiscreet manner by keeping India, inhabited by three hundred millions of souls, disarmed. No one can say in whose victory or defeat a war will end. Suppose in a war with Russia, England gets worsted. Then it will be the Indians who will come to grief, because, being unarmed, they will be unable to defend themselves against the enemy. It was not certainly wise of the English to make the people powerless whose valour enabled them to establish their empire in India. The English have always been in fear of internal enemies, but never entertained any fear of foreign foes. The Government of India is likely to be placed in the position of the one-eyed stag of *Æsop's Fables*, which fell in the hands of a hunter who came from a direction in which the stag had thought itself safe.

The Government of India has now, at last, come to see that it was not wise of it to disarm the people of India. And Lord Kitchener is trying to rectify the mistake by proposing to increase the Indian army. Lord Kitchener is a chivalrous man and a warrior by profession. He knows it ful well that a country cannot be defended against a foreign enemy except by its own people. Increasing the strength of the feudatory Chiefs will be another help to the defence of India. Every native Chief is attached to the British Emperor and will not hesitate to lay down his life to consolidate the British Empire in India. The Maharaja of Cooch Behar proved, by taking service in the Afridi war, that the Indian Chiefs are ready to sacrifice their lives for the good of that Empire. It is certain that these rulers will never take up arms against the British Government. For, if they had a mind to do that, they could have placed the British Government in a dangerous predicament by making common cause with the mutineers in the Sepoy Mutiny. Besides, the artful manner in which all communications between native Chiefs have been stopped makes it impossible for them to combine and take up arms against the Government. It has not certainly been wise, under the circumstances, to weaken these Chiefs.

The authorities now admit that the army in India will not, at its present strength, be able to withstand a foreign invasion. And among foreign foes, Russia is the one who is most likely to invade India. If the Russian troops can once effect their entrance into India, the handful of troops that the Indian Government maintains will find enough to do to defend the Presidency towns, the forts, the Viceregal and the gubernatorial residences, leaving the unarmed people of the country to the tender mercies of the brute-like Russian soldiery intent upon looting. A century and a half of British rule has, in fact, emasculated us to such an extent that, in time of danger, far from being able to render help to the Government, as we should, we shall have to be solely dependent upon it for our own defence. Never did a people on earth find itself placed in such a miserable situation. The English have become anxious for India's defence; we have been filled with anxiety as to how to defend ourselves.

5. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th June writes with reference to the Kabul Mission:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 5th, 1905.

The Kabul Mission. What has the Mission achieved? Did the present Amir disown the treaty made with the late Amir? Or did the British Government change its old policy with regard to Afghanistan? What then is the use of a treaty merely stating that the old arrangements are to continue? The truth is the Mission owed its origin to a desire on Lord Curzon's part to bring the Amir under greater control than now, but seeing that he had a tough customer to deal with, His Excellency has been compelled to give up his designs.

The Amir will continue in the future, as in the past, to import arms freely into Kabul and to draw his subsidy from the Indian Treasury. The arrangements as to the despatch of British troops into his country remain the same as of old. What advantage then has the Mission gained? The only persons that have gained by it seem to be Sir Louis Dane and the one or two other officials who have been decorated with titles. But have these titles been conferred on them simply because they succeeded in going to and returning from Kabul safely? The Amir has similarly honoured Inayatulla Khan with titles after that Prince's safe return from Calcutta. In fact, except this distribution of titles on both sides, we see nothing gained as a result of this Mission. The Tibet Mission was the cause of a great deal of bloodshed, of the levelling down of a good many *maths*, and of the destruction of valuable property. The Mission, moreover, encountered immense difficulties in forcing their passage to and from Lhassa. So in their case, there was some justification for the conferment of titles. But what has the Kabul Mission done to deserve similar honours?

6. A correspondent of the *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 5th June is sorry that certain affairs

Persian politics. connected with Baluchistan which are pending for

ROZNAME-I-MUKADDAS HABLUL MATEEN,
June 5th, 1905.

the last few years and have cost much labour and money, both to the Government of India as well as to Persia, are still far from being settled. Three Persian statesmen have tried one after another to bring about a settlement, but have failed. The question was taken up this year also, but came to nothing on account of the non-attendance of some persons whose presence was absolutely necessary.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

7. A correspondent of the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 27th May refers to

The proposed transfer of a Sub-Inspector of Police.

KHULNAVASI,
May 27th, 1905.

honest Sub-Inspector of the thana, Babu Darpanarayan Singha. Government is therefore requested to reconsider the order of his transfer to Moreganj.

8. A correspondent of the same paper says that on the night of the 5th

Budmashes in a village in the Jessore district.

KHULNAVASI.

idem, a *budmash* forcibly snatched away a box containing property valued at about Rs. 125 from one Prabhas Poddar in the Sagardandi village in the Jessore district. The culprit was known to Prabhas, who chased him, but was wounded with a knife. Next day information was lodged in the Kesabpur thana. The Daroga, Munshi Rahim Baksh, came on enquiry, but finished his investigation without even going to the place of occurrence. Afterwards he reported the case in the C Form, although there was substantial evidence against the accused. The villagers live in constant dread of *budmashes*. The District Magistrate has been petitioned against the Daroga's decision.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

9. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st June asks—Who is to pay the compensation

The Rolt case.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1905.

awarded to Mr. Rolt? The Bengal Government Resolution on the Rolt case says nothing about it. Most probably the minor zamindars of Khagra will have to pay the compensation money. One man

suffering for the fault of another—is not this a strange arrangement? When Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak was unjustly prosecuted by officials in Bombay, Government did not come forward to give him a compensation. But then Mr. Tilak was a black Indian, while Mr. Rolt is a white man, and the compensation money is to be paid by a third party, who are Indians. Is not this a strange arrangement? Again, Mr. Justice Henderson of the High Court severely criticized the conduct of the officials concerned in the Rolt case and pointed out to the Government the pernicious effects of the union of judicial and executive functions. The Rolt Commission could not prove Mr. Rolt to be guiltless, but said that there was not sufficient evidence to substantiate the charges against him. Why did then Mr. Justice Henderson waste his valuable time in dilating on the case? It was the High Court also which tried the case brought by Mr. Carey against Babu Bibhuti Sekhar of Berhampore. A clearer instance of the pernicious effects produced by the union of judicial and executive functions is seldom met with, but the High Court did not at all raise the question in that case. But then Babu Bibhuti Sekhar was a black Indian while Mr. Rolt is a white man. This race distinction seems to be the keynote of the policy which guides the civil and the executive government of this country. Is not this strange? The Government of Bengal finds no one at fault in the Rolt case, save and except Mr. Heard. But that gentleman did only what the duties of his office warranted him to do. The Bengal Government's rebuke of Mr. Heard will therefore have the effect of deterring judicial officers in future from doing their duties properly in cases in which Europeans may be concerned.

SULTAN,
June 2nd, 1905.

10. Referring to the cases noticed in paragraph 10 of the Report on Native Papers for 3rd June, 1905 the *Sultan* Two cases before the Sub- [Calcutta] of the 2nd June writes:—

We understand that in regard to the case about the exhibition of caricatures in a public procession, offensive to Musalmans, Gopal Mozumdar has apologised to the Musalmans on behalf of the Hindus, and that, similarly, Munshi Golam Rasul has also begged Gopal Mazumdar's pardon for having somehow given him offence. Of course the Deputy Magistrate can claim credit for having in this way succeeded in compromising the suits. But we ask the Musalmans concerned how they could agree to such a compromise. It is certainly a thing most terrible to think of that devilish doings like those of which these Hindus were guilty should be forgiven simply at the request or frown of a Magistrate.

We cannot believe from their conduct on this occasion that the Musalmans of Nadia possess anything of the virtues or fire of Islam. Do they not remember how some Brahmas of Dacca were assaulted by the local Musalmans for attempting to put on the stage a play relating to the *Hajarat*? Do they not, again, remember the trouble to which a theatre at Calcutta was put some years ago for attempting to perform a play named "Dharmabir Mahomed"? We advise the Deputy Magistrate to give up his whimsical and unjust ways of distributing justice. We conclude by expressing our hearty disgust with the Musalmans of Kusthia, who by their conduct on this occasion have sullied the pure glory of Islam.

BRARAT MITRA,
June 3rd, 1905.

11. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June has the following:—

We had heard of the Musselman Magistrate of A judgment of the Calcutta High Court. the Calcutta Police Court writing his judgment while the pleader was still arguing the case.

This conduct of the Magistrate was severely criticized by the Press at the time. But now we see the same thing in the Calcutta High Court also. On the 20th May last, a rent suit was being heard by the Full Bench of the Court, but just as the pleader had finished his argument the Hon'ble Justice Rampini began to read out the judgment of the case before the Bench, having produced it from his pocket. It is heard that this act of the Hon'ble Judge was not approved by his colleagues. Surely the people will not hesitate to call this kind of dealing out justice as a gross injustice. If a Lower Court had acted in this way, one might seek protection of the High Court, but were the Full Bench of a High Court to act in this way, where would the people go for redress? We regret this conduct of a Judge of the standing and experience of Justice Rampini.

The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th June also notices the same fact.

12. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 4th June complains that the public of Hooghly are put to great inconvenience by

Allegations against Maulvi A. K. M. Abdus Sobhan, Treasury Officer of Hooghly.

the methods of business of Maulvi A. K. M. Abdus Sobhan, the present Treasury Officer of that district. He is in the habit of spending all his time in the treasure room of the Treasury Office, at the door of which a sentry always stands on guard, so that he is not approachable by the public at all hours. Further, the Maulvi does not seem to understand Bengali, for he is always speaking English, and when any application is presented to him in Bengali, he asks the applicant to get it re-written in English. His *amla* also are often put to great inconvenience and harassment by being addressed in English.

13. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th May quotes a Bombay paper which

The prosecution of the Bharat Bandhu.

says that the Government of Lord Curzon have prosecuted the *Bharat Bandhu* under the Official Secrets Act for publishing a confidential letter on municipal affairs, but it is to be asked in which Court they have prosecuted the *penny* paper of England for publishing the news regarding the friction between Lord Kitchener and General Elles and the resignation by the former of his office. It seems the sections of the Secrets Act are meant to be applied to the black editors only.

14. Referring to the decision of the Deputy Magistrate of Barisal in Mahabbat Ali chaukidar's case, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th June says that we have now and then to feel ashamed at the misdoings of our Deputy Magistrates. In some cases we see that the Deputy Magistrates, goaded by pangs of hunger, are obliged to give such decisions. We are sorry for this.

(d)—*Education.*

15. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 3rd June complains that the Government Sanskrit College at Calcutta has now fallen

The Government Sanskrit College, Calcutta.

on evil days. The institution is badly in need of competent professors. At present preferment goes

by flattery and favour rather than by merit.

16. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June has the following:—

Who to write text-books in English for Bengali boys?

It may seem like a truism to say that a book for school-boys in any language should be written only by one whose mother-tongue it is. But it is a question whether, for the two reasons given below, a truth so seemingly self-evident does not admit of an exception so far as regards the preparation of English school-books for Indian boys. For, in this case, it is not the excellence of the language alone that has to be considered. Here another thing is quite as indispensable, namely, that the subjects treated of should be such as are quite familiar to the juvenile readers, for, without this, neither can the boys understand the lessons nor can their teachers explain these to them. Now, as we have shown in previous articles, Englishmen know but little of things Bengali, and what little of them they know, they know but imperfectly. But there is another and a graver reason why school-books in English for Indians should not be written by Englishmen. We mean that morality taught in English school-books written by Englishmen is often of a very low type and sometimes grossly immoral according to Hindu notions. We will give three examples. In a story entitled "Generous Revenge" the students are taught to admire the conduct of one Ubarto, a Genoese of mean extraction, who, when unjustly condemned to life-long exile by his aristocratic enemy, with terms of bitter contumely, leaves his presence with the threat that he shall one day repent of his conduct, and who subsequently rescues from slavery the only son of the man who treated him so badly and sends him to his father with a letter in which he reminds his adversary with triumph how his parting words had at last come true. Now, a man who resents harsh words, who, in a manner, curses him who utters them, and who rejoices when the curse comes home to the wrong-doer is not, according to Hindu notions, a man with exalted but rather with low moral ideas.

CHINSURA
VARTAVABA,
June 4th, 1905.

HITAVARTA,
May 4th, 1905.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 5th, 1905.

RATNAKAR,
June 3rd, 1905.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1905.

According to Hindu ideas, the mother is higher even than heaven, and the debt a child owes her is such as no child can ever hope to repay. Now hear what an English school-book written by an Englishman has to say on the subject. This is how a child is made to address his mother:—

"And if God please my life to spare,
I hope I shall reward thy care,
My mother."

Again, as the Hindu feels it, the child's duty to the mother is a sacred privilege, a spontaneous feeling, irrespective of the maternal care or anything that the mother does for the child. But this is how a young frog is made by the English writer of an English text-book to speak of its mother:—

"I have not much to thank my mother for. I have just come out of an egg which my mother had laid in the water. In fact, that is all I know about my mother, for, as I told you, I never had a mother's care."

No wonder that many such young frogs are now to be met with in Hindu homes.

It therefore follows that even text-books in English for Bengalis should be written by Bengalis, and by Bengalis wise, experienced, social and acquainted with their *Sastras*.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 3rd, 1905.

17. Commenting upon the reply of the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporal

tion to the complaints made by the Municipa

A municipal complaint.

Commissioners regarding the filthy condition of the northern division of Calcutta, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June says that the Municipality requires more money and more hands to do the work of the Conservancy Department, but we see that no other Municipality levies so heavy taxes as the Calcutta Municipality. The fact is that the native rate-payers' money is being spent in beautifying European quarters and the native quarters are neglected. So long as the local municipal authorities will not put a stop to unjust treatment, no sanitary improvement can be expected in the northern division.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1905.

18. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st June fully supports Mr. Carlyle's

circular regarding the possession of disputed *chur*

Mr. Carlyle's circular on the
possession of disputed *chur* lands.

lands and says that it will do immense good to both

rich and poor zamindars by saving the former from

the necessary expenses of unlawful and forcible possession and the latter from
bring forcibly ousted from the land of which they are the rightful owners.
Everyone, with the exception of one or two powerful and oppressive zamindars,
will thank the Government for the circular.

19. In continuation of the report published in the last issue of the *Bihar*

Bandhu (see paragraph 31st, Report on Native Paper

The Manager of the Dumraon
Estate.

from 27th May, 1905) the correspondent of that paper

sends copies of the following telegrams sent by the

people of Sodosepur, etc., to the Subdivisional Officer of Dinapur, and says
that the police is helping Babu Sheo Sharan Lal:—

FROM—KRISHNA BALLABH.

Jadu Babu oppressing my man. Imminent danger. Preserve me.

FROM—RAJ JAGDISH KUMAR SINGH.

Krishna Sakha, Sheo Sharan Lal's creature, insulting. Police in their favour. Kindly
visit. Turn around.

Police also creating evidence; siding Sheo Sharan Lal, especially since yesterday. Your
Honour's immediate presence for ends of justice earnestly solicited to-day. My very honour
and life at stake.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

BIHAR BANDHU,
June 1st, 1905.

20. The *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 1st June complains against the

present arrangements of the East Indian Railway by

which guards have been empowered to start trains

from intermediate stations. They give signals to start without allowing

sufficient time for the passengers to alight or get into the train. The editor of the paper was an eye-witness to the scene at Sadosipar railway station on the 13th May last, when the guard of the Mokameh-Cawnpore passenger started the train while a woman had still one leg on the ground and the other on the foot-board of the carriage in order to get into the train and was only saved from falling down by some passengers having lifted her up.

The same paper is not satisfied by the present time-table of the East Indian Railway, under which five out of six trains pass the Mokameh station between 1-3 and 6-30 A.M., leaving only one train for the remaining 19 hours, and therefore asks the authorities to make suitable alterations in the timings for the convenience of passengers. Trains for Gaya from Bankipur are also not sufficient.

21. A correspondent of the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 1st June says that

Proposal to start a new Steamer Company in Rangoon. a largely-attended meeting of the inhabitants of Eastern Bengal was recently held in the Rangoon Victoria Hall in which it was decided to start a joint-

stock company with funds to be raised from East Bengal only for a steamer service between Rangoon and Akyab. Many people have signed a resolution binding themselves not to travel in any other Company's steamer, even if that Company should offer very cheap rates for the sake of competition.

22. The *Rutnakar* [Asansol] of the 3rd June draws attention to the necessity of the early construction of a platform at Oyaria station on the East Indian Railway.

23. The same paper draws attention to the inconvenience caused by the want of proper waiting accommodation on the down platform of the Uluberia station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

24. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 3rd June refers to the want of proper arrangements for a supply of pure drinking-water at the Howrah railway station. It is pointed

out that until recently the railway authorities used to keep up two or three large iron tanks for this purpose, but that this arrangement has been discontinued and the taps are now supplied with water drawn directly from the *jhil* near the station compound which feeds the locomotives. It is alleged that the water of this *jhil* is quite unfit for drinking purposes, the foul smell which it gives off being sufficiently strong to deter even the most thirsty passenger from attempting to put it to his lips.

25. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June says that the authorities of the East Indian Railway have ordered the native ticket-collectors attached to the Lilua station to live with their families in the most

wretched and unhealthy quarters which have been built for them in that place. This order has been issued as a punishment to those who used to live with relations near by owing to the insanitary condition of the new buildings. This is a sort of oppression which is possible only in a lawless country. The attention of the Agent of the Railway Company is drawn to the matter.

26. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May says that on account of the railway risk note, which is another name of a law which legalizes theft and dishonesty in railways, the traders are suffering a great loss, yet the Government is taking no step to put a stop to the scandal. The Marwari Association of Calcutta and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have both approached Government with a request to modify the terms of the note, but up to the present nothing has been done. Owing to the mischievous terms of the note, misdelivery of goods is a daily occurrence. In the course of a few days consignments in several instances have been delivered to persons without their producing the railway receipts. In one instance a consignment of timber addressed to a Marwari was delivered to a Musalman. When the Marwari claimed compensation from the Bengal-Nagpur Railway authorities, they sent him away, pointing out to him the conditions of the risk note. The case is now in appeal in the highest Court of the Central Provinces. So long as the risk note is not modified, the indifference of railways is not likely to diminish, nor can the goods despatched by them be safe. The Railway Board's attention is called to this matter.

Jyoti,
June 1st, 1905.

RATNAKAR,
June 3rd, 1905.

RATNAKAR.

HOWRAH HITAISHEE,
June 3rd, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 3rd, 1905.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 3rd, 1905.

(A)—General.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1905.

27. Referring to the Government of India's proposal to employ a Civilian in Bengal to deal with the question of The labour question in India. labour supply, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st June writes as follows:—

It is a happy news that the Government has come to understand that it is one of its chief duties to help the arts and industries of this country. There are two opposite parties in commerce and manufacture—the capitalist and the labourer, and in India there has not yet occurred any conflict between them. The Indian labourer is poor and ignorant, and does not know how to defend his rights. He is easily satisfied and seldom goes out of his native home for service abroad. He does not even know where he can get better wages than in his native village. Government will surely do him a service if it gives him this information. But let it not do anything like the cooly law of Assam, which is a source of great oppression to labourers in that province. In our opinion a Civilian will not be able to do justice to the Government's proposal. Let the authorities send an able and honest Deputy Magistrate to England and Europe to learn the methods of labour recruitment there, so that after his return he may apply them to labourers in India. Government's proposal to establish labourers' villages near mills and factories is good and feasible. There should be separate houses for separate families in such villages. The houses should be better than those in which labourers ordinarily live. There should be schools, dispensaries, gymnasiums, bazars, etc., in such villages. Every labourer should be supplied with plough cattle, lands, and implements of agriculture, and every artisan should be supplied with the necessary instruments of his art. Above all, the labour force should be bound by ties of affection and good treatment. It is our firm conviction that if all this is done the labourer, who will come for wages, will become attached to his work for life. We have something to say about the manner in which labourers should be recruited. There are many people in every village who possess no lands and to whom service is the only source of livelihood. But they find themselves unable to maintain their families with the incomes which they make by service. They therefore become involved in debt. These men can be easily recruited as labourers with the help of good and generous villagers. Both in towns and in the mafassal wages have increased. This should be borne in mind in fixing a labourer's wages in a mill or factory. If his service is to be made permanent he must be paid more than a household servant gets as salary. The hours of labour should be fixed, because many mill-owners show a tendency to overwork their labourers. Englishmen are generally of a haughty and overbearing temperament. To them the black Indians are not men. They do not shrink from behaving unjustly towards even educated Indian gentlemen. It is therefore no wonder that their behaviour towards Indian labourers should be cruel. So long as this evil will not be removed, there will be a scarcity of labour supply in spite of all efforts on the part of the Government.

28. The same paper writes as follows:—

Appointment of Europeans and Eurasians under the Board of Revenue.

At the time of the Delhi Durbar a great circular was issued by officials for appointing Europeans and Eurasians to railways. But when we gave publicity to it Lord Curzon denied that

he had any knowledge of it. Recently the Bengal Government has published a notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, to the effect that 30 per cent. of the posts on Rs. 40 each and upwards under the Board of Revenue should be reserved for Europeans and Eurasians. This notification is calculated to generate both anger and ill-feeling in one's mind. Europeans may be asses and dunces, but 30 per cent. of the posts must be reserved for them. Would it be wrong on the part of the Press or the public to criticize this act of gross partiality in strong terms or be dissatisfied with the officials who were responsible for it? The Queen's Proclamation says that honesty and ability, and not race or religion, should be the qualifications required for admission into the public service. But the Bengal Government proclaim that men should be appointed to Government service not on the qualifications of honesty and ability but on considerations of race and religion. An evil spirit haunts the authorities. They are trampling upon justice and morality for the sake of self-interest.

They should not be allowed to proceed in this path of iniquity. A list of their acts of iniquity should be held up before them, and if they have the least sense of shame in them, they will shrink from the sight. Such a list should be sent to all really good men in Great Britain and to the King-Emperor.

29. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st June writes as follows:—

Government and the employment of Indians in the public service. The policy which at present guides the Government of our country is creating great alarm among the people. Under Lord Curzon the whole

firmament of Indian administration is darkened by a retrograde policy. That generous spirit which marked the former race of officials in India is nowhere to be found nowadays. The spirit of impartiality which pervades the late Queen's Proclamation is now receiving cruel shocks from the action of Government at the present time. In a certain number of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the last year there appeared an advertisement over the signature of the Secretary of State for India, in which it was distinctly stated that none but European British subjects need apply for the 11 posts referred to therein of Assistant Engineers in the Public Works Department of the Government of India. Was not this a distinct violation of the spirit of the Queen's Proclamation? The authorities know that the Indian yields to no European in ability and intelligence. But it is their undue partiality towards their countrymen which induces them to reserve all the lucrative appointments in all departments of the public service for Europeans. Mr. Herbert Roberts put some questions in the House of Commons about the advertisement referred to above, to which Mr. Brodrick gave an evasive and quite unsatisfactory answer.

30. The same paper writes as follows:—

Mr. Monro, formerly Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, but now a missionary, is the owner of a tea-garden near Darjeeling. He now claims Rs. 40,000 as compensation from the Government of Bengal for the loss caused to the garden by landslip, which, he says, was brought about by the construction of a road below it. Mr. Holland, the Government Geologist, says that the garden is situated in a very dangerous place and that the landslip was not probably caused by the construction of the road. Moreover, Mr. Monro's claim is barred by limitation. Seeing that he has no hope of success in a law-court, Mr. Monro has submitted the case to arbitration with the permission of the Government. It is rumoured that Sir Andrew Fraser has given the permission because Mr. Monro is a missionary. We beg to ask His Honour

why should not the law of limitation apply to Mr. Monro's case?

31. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd June writes:—

We are bound to express our gratitude to His Honour Sir A. Fraser for certain recent acts of his. In saying this we do not refer simply to his action in degrading Messrs. Shout and Carey. The native people look with some hopefulness towards His Honour now that they have received some evidence that he is not pleased with the unlawful doings of his subordinate officials. A state of things was gradually coming about in this country which was subversive of all moral principles. Superior officials, whether pleased or not with the vagaries of their subordinates, at least were bound to extend their support to them in public. This line of action was gradually creating in the minds of the native public an idea that all protests against the doings of the officials were merely so much crying in the wilderness and calculated rather to secure promotion than punishment for the official complained against, in short, that justice was a commodity which was no longer to be had under the British *raj*. Sir Andrew Fraser has now given a shock to this prevailing belief.

There is no denying that the severity which marks the administration of criminal justice is the greatest blot on British rule in India. The policy of "No conviction, no promotion," whether it finds support from the head of the Administration or not, has undoubtedly become the guiding policy of both the executive and judicial officers of Government. We could, were that at all

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1905.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 2nd, 1905.

necessary, point to several officials who pay no heed to considerations of duty, justice or the public peace, and who expect promotion in the service for the large percentage of convictions which they show and which they regard as an infallible test of efficient work. Nor is this state of things confined only to the paid Magistracy. The Honorary Magistrates also are often admonished to wield their powers with strictness and severity and sometimes even publicly rebuked when they show what is considered an undue percentage of acquittals or compromises. We cannot believe that the responsibility for this state of things lies primarily with the District Magistrates themselves. It is the general idea of the public that influence is exerted from higher quarters to make them assume this attitude of harshness in their trial of cases. That such a spirit of severity exists among our Magistrates there is no doubt, though it may exist without His Honour's knowledge. It was a Lieutenant-Governor who said on the occasion of a riot that somebody ought to have been punished for that day's work. When such is the mental attitude of a Lieutenant-Governor, the only wonder is that subordinate officials are not more prone to conviction than they now are. The officials do not seem to be able to realize that this policy of theirs, whoever may be the person responsible for it, is undermining the influence of the Government over the public mind.

Some Anglo-Indian journals have expressed the opinion that Mr. Carey's punishment has been unduly severe compared with his offences. Our opinion is just the reverse, namely, that the punishment has been too light for the offences. For officials like him, who by their acts bring into contempt the office and responsible functions which they discharge, there is no adequate punishment short of dismissal from the service.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 5th, 1906.

32. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 5th June publishes the following in English:—

Mr. Carey.

The cause of justice has, after all, been vindicated and we are grateful to Sir Andrew Fraser for it. Fortunately for the people of Bengal in general and fortunately for the people of Hooghly in particular, Mr. Carey, the District Magistrate, who has made himself famous by his recent vagaries, has been degraded to the post of a Joint-Magistrate and transferred to Saran. We hope the exemplary punishment inflicted on him will have a deterrent effect upon the officers of his rank possessing similar traits of character. One of our Calcutta contemporaries takes exception to the measure of punishment meted out to him. His pay before degradation was Rs. 1,800, which is now reduced to Rs. 900 a month. So his punishment amounts to a fine of Rs. 900 a month until the period of degradation is served, and is, therefore, according to our contemporary, rather too severe. We fail to understand how it is so, if punishment be meant for curative and deterrent purposes. Does not our contemporary remember the many sins of omission and commission Mr. Carey has been guilty of during his tenure of office? Are there any palliating circumstances entitling him to a lenient treatment? The ends of justice would surely have been frustrated, if, after all these repeated highhandednesses, Mr. Carey were treated with any degree of leniency and let off with a mere censure or transfer to an unimportant and penal station, as is usually done on similar occasions.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1906.

33. Referring to the rumour which has been published by the *Standard* newspaper to the effect that the Bengal partition

The partition question.

scheme will be carried out by the Government, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June says that if the rumour is true, it is surely terrible news. It is, however, believed that the *Standard* is mistaken and that Government has given up the idea of partitioning Bengal. The people are in a terrible suspense and it behoves the authorities to publish the truth in the matter.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 5th, 1906.

34. Seeing in the *Standard* that Bengal is to be split asunder by the command of the Government, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th June observes that if the proposed partition of Bengal. The statement of the *Standard* be correct, a great calamity is hanging over Bengal. However, so long as the Government does not say anything positively regarding the partition or otherwise of Bengal, the people must patiently suffer from doubt and anxiety in their minds. Cannot the Government remove this anxiety by definitely stating what they mean to do?

35. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 4th June notes that Babu Gopal Chandra Mukerjee, the present District Magistrate of Faridpur, is winning praise on all sides

Babu Gopal Chunder Mukerjee,
District Magistrate of Faridpur.

example of a native officer filling with credit a high office of State and yet retaining his national peculiarities of dress and feeling. The paper concludes with a prayer for his long life and further advancement in the public service.

36. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th June has a long article headed

Sir Andrew Fraser's administrative policy.

"Increasing the power of the Executive" in which it reviews the administrative policy of Sir Andrew Fraser, citing the following as instances of unpopular and objectionable measures already adopted or about to be adopted :—

(1) The opening of a College at Ranchi, which, in spite of assurances to the contrary, will ultimately tend to the abolition of the Presidency College.

(2) The Resolution of the Government on the report of the Corporation of Calcutta. The public has been very much displeased to see the policy which was condemned by the majority of the Commissioners upheld by the Government, which used hard words to those who had the ill-fortune of pointing out the evils.

(3) The temporary appointment of junior officers as Chairmen of the local Municipality and Director of Public Instruction.

(4) The proposal, which is a rumour yet, to appoint a Civilian to the post of the Director of Public Instruction.

(5) The Resolution making the Commissioners as the local head of the officers employed in their respective Divisions, which will have the effect of putting the judicial officers under the executive.

37. Referring to the orders of the Government of the United Provinces

Abolition of certain Hindu holidays.

discontinuing certain Hindu holidays on the representation of the local Chamber of Commerce, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th June says that perhaps the authorities believe that interference with religious observances is not likely to diminish the religious sentiments of the people.

DACCA PRAKASH
June 4th, 1905

HITAVARTA,
June 4th, 1905.

HINDU BANGAVASI,
June 5th, 1905.

PALLIVASI,
May 17th, 1905.

HITAVARTA,
May 29th, 1905.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1905.

38. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 17th May writes as follows :—

"Is Lord Curzon's policy bad?" Lord Curzon's policy, though directly bad, is indirectly beneficial to us. It has created a spirit of unity among the Indians. The higher and lower classes of people have learnt to join hands in the interest of their country. Religious and sectarian disputes have lost their force in the field of politics. The attention of the people of the country has been directed towards arts and industries. In short, in every direction there are signs of an awakening. And are not all these the effects of Lord Curzon's policy?

39. Writing under the heading "British administration in India and

Lord Curzon as an administrative reformer.

the Indian people," the *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 29th May compares Lord Curzon's attempts at reforming the Indian administration to the

work of a mason who, while he wishes to improve the brick-work of a building, is only digging a deep hole into its foundations. Continuing the metaphor, the hole is described as becoming the receptacle of a larger quantity of gunpowder the deeper it is being dug. This explosive material, it is explained, is popular discontent. This powder is liable to burst into a flame at the slightest contact with the smallest spark of fire.

It is explained that the writer is compelled to express this opinion about Lord Curzon's policy simply because it is the dearest wish of his heart that the British Empire in India should be permanent, based on the firmest foundations of justice, and secure in the heart-felt allegiance of the millions of its subjects.

40. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st June writes as follows :—

"Professional agitators." Recently a zamindar had an interview with the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. During this interview His Honour expressed his desire to confer with a few zamindars on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Act Amendment Bill. The zamindar

suggested the names of Raja Peary Mohan Mukharji of the British Indian Association and Mr. A. Chaudhuri of the Bengal Landholders' Association. But His Honour characterised them as "professional agitators." This zamindar expressed himself against this opinion, but it is not known whether he was able to change His Honour's view. There are professional agitators in England and also in Sir Andrew's mother-country, Scotland. But in India one cannot point to a single individual who can be truly called a professional agitator. In England people discuss politics for money and even preach religion for money. But not one man in India takes to politics as the means of his livelihood. His Honour has therefore been wrong in calling Raja Peary Mohan Mukharji and Mr. A. Chaudhuri professional agitators. Sir Andrew has grown old in the service of India. It is therefore a pity that he does not know the Indians. If he gives up the erroneous notion that whatever is done by his countrymen is also done by Indians, he will see that the latter discuss politics from purely patriotic motives, and far from making money by it, they have to spend money for it.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 3rd, 1905.

41. In noticing the speech of the Gaekwar of Baroda which he delivered before the members of the Industrial Section of the Imperial Institute in London, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May says that the speech clearly pointed out what India really wants, only if our Government would listen to it !

HITAVARTA,
June 4th, 1905.

42. Referring to the present of a gun to the Municipality of Bombay as a trophy of the Boer war by the British Government, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th June, seeing that some of its contemporaries have not approved of it, observes that if the Government had presented it to some London County Council it would have been very well, but it is doubtful whether presentation of an article of which an independent nation has been robbed to one which is dependent is doing honour to it or putting it to shame. Is it proper to give as presents such things as a token of gratitude or love when they have been obtained by killing thousands of brave men ? The paper is therefore very glad to learn that two spirited Muhammadan members did not give their votes in favour of accepting the present.

HITAVARTA.

43. Referring to the meeting proposed to be held to consider measures for giving a proper reception to the Royal visitors to India, the same paper says:—

We are very glad to welcome His Royal Highness, but we do not like to see the money of the poor people of India wasted, and would wish that the members would see to it.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 4th, 1905.

44. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th June writes:—

India and Japan. There can be no question that the recent success of Japan is a thing on which oriental nations might justly pride themselves, but we ought to consider how far we Indians have a right to share in that pride.

The three principal departments in which Japan has attained pre-eminence in the world at the present moment are military and naval strength, arts and commerce. It is needless to point out that for none of these three things is Japan indebted to India for instruction or guidance. The Japanese have distinguished themselves by their humanity and good treatment of their enemies in war. It may be admitted that this humanity Japan learnt from India. It may be granted that it was India which taught Japan the great lesson of learning to forgive a fleeing, or imprisoned or distressed enemy. But mere forgiveness is not always praiseworthy. Forgiveness comes with the best grace from him who possesses strength.

We Indians cannot rejoice at the success of Japan with the same feelings with which one independent nation can regard the success of another independent nation. For we do not possess national independence. Where can we have the heart filled with those high aspirations which belong to an independent people ? We Indians regard the slightest relaxation of a severe law in our country with a hundredfold more pleasure than that with which the Persians or Afghans could regard the disappearance of English or Russian influence in their country.

If our rulers here were to relax in the least the severity of the Arms Act or to concede to us the right of asking a few additional questions in the Legislative Councils, our joy at these concessions would be greater than the Pathan's pride caused by the action of the British Government in conceding to the Amir the title of His Majesty and King of the Independent State of Afghanistan. The beggar is content even if he gets a mere handful. Where shall we get the power and the fitness to express pleasure at Japan's successes? Many of our patriots have now fallen into the habit of pointing at every step to Japan as an example to be imitated by our countrymen. They forget the immense difference between free Japan and conquered India. What is the model which we are to imitate? Is a chained dog to imitate a lion at large? The difference between Japan and India is the difference between heaven and earth. Japan is placed at a far superior level to ours. In truth, Japan is on the same level with England, France, Germany, and America—countries which we used to consider as beyond the possibility of imitation by ourselves. The fact seems to be that it would be easier for us to imitate Europe than to imitate Japan. For we know a European language, have read of European manners and morals, and have been in contact with a European race for about 150 years. We have not yet possessed the opportunity of knowing Japan with anything of the same intimacy with which we know Europe.

The Japanese are a hospitable race; that is why Indians are welcomed to Japan. Then, again, they are Buddhists and therefore look with respect upon the people of India—a land which was the birthplace of Buddha. A visit to Japan does not impress on our minds anything of the feeling of distinction between the ruling race and the ruled which is brought home to us during a visit to England. It is for these reasons that we are attached to Japan. Otherwise, we do not possess the power and the right to rejoice at Japan's success as our success, nor to call Japan our own. What a world intervenes between independent Japan, the land of the resplendent rising sun on the Pacific, and down-trodden India, a land sunk in darkness. Where is Japan, and where are we?

45. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 30th May writes:—

Indian aspirations.

What is it that we want? We desire that we may be able for all time to earn our means of live-

lihood under others. If we knew how to earn our own bread independently; if we were able independently to stop the use amongst our countrymen of things of foreign make, the products of an industry which if pursued here might give support to numbers of our own countrymen; if we were able to provide for our first necessities of life from products of home industry; if we could dispense completely with the aid of foreign nations in our struggle for life; if we were resolute to eschew all foreign things as unworthy of acceptance;—then certainly would all the nations of the West, lovers as they are of patriotism, regard us with esteem. Indians do not know how to esteem their own worth; like creepers, they always seek and serve another stronger race to lean on for support. Is it at all wonderful that they are always despised and treated with contempt?

The English are a nation of heroes. Can a man of strength ever wish to respect a weak man who is always on his knees? Can, too, such people ever aspire to sit on the same seat? That we should aspire to the same posts as those filled by the English officials in this country is a wild delusion.

46. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd June refuses to admit

National downfall.

the truth of the statement made in the last

Administration Report of Bengal that, "as in other countries, so in this province also, the proprietors of newspaper find that nothing conduces to sale of their publications so much as an account of a *cause célèbre*, and when the natural supply of such occurrences fails, there is a tendency to supply the deficiency by invention and exaggeration." The laws of this country are so stringent that it is hazardous for the Press to indulge in sharp criticism. Mistakes may be committed by newspapers, but it is not the fact that the Press invent cases of oppression or exaggerate them. It is the authorities, on the contrary, who take a pride in sheltering their subordinates under their wing and whose attachment to their kith and kin makes them blind to actual

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 30th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 3rd, 1905.

occurrences, so as to take all official statements as gospel truth and the newspaper versions of cases as false. The truth is that, if the people of this country have become degenerated, much more have the officials in this country become so.

At one time the English gained a name in the world for their innate magnanimity and sense of justice. That name still survives, thanks to the noble character of some living Englishmen. But it astounds one to think of the change that time and circumstances have brought about in the character of the English nation as a whole. To give one instance. In 1818, when the first vernacular newspaper, the *Samachar Darpan*, was started in Bengal, Lord Hastings, the then Governor-General of India, wrote:—"It is salutary for the supreme authority to look to the control of public scrutiny." There is nothing to wonder at in this statement of Lord Hastings. He was an Englishman by birth: his English flesh and blood and his English heart could not make him think otherwise of the newspaper Press.

But times have changed, and there has come a change over the sentiments also of the English people. It is true the people of Bengal have, in the course of time, made a great advance in education and civilization, and in some matters have emulated the people of other civilized countries. But, unfortunately, the lapse of time and change of circumstances have also brought about a change in the character of the gods.

Unfortunately for this country, the number of lawless *danavas* (demons) among white men is gradually increasing. And the number of officials is not few who, in disregard of truth and justice, declare men of their own society, guilty of serious offences, quite innocent, and innocent natives guilty. Yet such officials enjoy the respect of their society and the confidence of the Government. The Anglo-Indian newspapers are quite blind to such miscarriages of justice. The missionaries, too, are giving sufficient proof of their devotion to Christ and their sense of justice by following in the footsteps of the Anglo-Indian Press. As a matter of fact, the outlook for the poor people of this country is very gloomy.

The people themselves have become as much degenerated as the officials. Take Mr. Carey's case, for instance. A man was insulted by that Magistrate and brought a case against him, but in the end compromised the case by himself apologising to Mr. Carey. Mr. Carey has been punished by the Government, but a number of selfish curs, who take a delight in licking the feet of the authorities, are about to petition Government against his punishment. There has been a great increase in the country of people who look upon flattery as the be all and end all of their existence. If this is not national downfall, we do not know what is. The outlook, indeed, is not hopeful either for the rulers or for the ruled.

47. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 6th June writes:—

TRIPURA HITAISHI,
June 6th, 1905.

With the people of India under the present régime, political agitation simply means crying.

The grievances of the Indian people. But it was different in the days of Musalman rule. Hindus of those days, in seeking for political rights, were more accustomed to seek the assistance of the sword than of the platform. Under the strict rule of the British, those days of murder and bloodshed are now gone from India. The advent into power of a Sivaji is now an impossibility. Peace now reigns all over the country. So the only means now available in seeking political rights are either agitation or crying.

Reference is then made to the following heads of complaint:—(1) Practical monopoly of all the higher offices of State by members of the ruling race and exclusion of the children of the soil therefrom; (2) the Arms Act and the exclusion of races like the Bengalis from the military profession, thereby only adding to the national vices of cowardice and weakness; (3) the meting out of different treatment to Indian and to British subjects in violation of the terms of the Queen's Proclamation of 1858; (4) the gradual closing of the doors of high education to the people; (5) the refusal to enlist Indians in larger numbers in the defence of their own country; (6) a tendency to keep up, and sometimes even encourage, differences of race and language; (7) frequency of assaults on the persons of natives by Europeans of all ranks.

We know that mere crying produces no effect, does not lift a country from its fallen state, does not add one iota to the manlieness of the race. But what other resource have we but crying? The nation which cannot adopt any other means to smooth its path of advance into regions of prosperity is bound to resort to crying. It is only the unhappy who cry, and what race of people on earth are so unhappy as we?

48. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th June writes as follows:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 7th, 1905.

When, in the beginning of the last century, India under British rule. Europeans first set foot on Indian soil, everything about them appeared new and strange to Asiatics. Their form, their complexion, their speech, their costume, their manners, all struck Asiatics with an air of novelty. The Asiatics were lost in wonder at the sight of a people so strange to them. Europeans are subtle by nature, while Asiatics are simple at heart. Western subtlety at once proceeded to take advantage of this Eastern simplicity. In 1757 Clive deceived Omichand and thereby laid the foundations of European ascendancy in India. Many years have elapsed since then, and many a time, during these long years, have the simple Asiatics been deceived by the subtle Europeans. There was the renewed Charter of 1833 and there was the Queen's Proclamation of 1858. Seeing us so simple and so patient, the officials have deceived us times and in forms without number and thereby gained their ends. For more than a century have we been under a deep delusion. That delusion is now being slowly dispelled and we are slowly coming to realize our position. Our enchanted sleep is over—the delusion that we were living in all sorts of comfort under the protection of a foreign people is dispelled. We now see our wants and grievances. So long we have learnt only what others taught us, spoken an alien speech, and addressed one as mother who is not really our mother. When after our long enchanted sleep we partially opened our drowsy eyes and looked upon our country we saw a new sight. We saw that our prowess, energy and enterprise had vanished; that our trades, industries, agriculture and commerce were gone; that we were lying on the lap of a Western people as helpless as a little infant; that we ate only when that Western people fed us; that we moaned from hunger when they did not so feed us; that we were about to die in numbers of starvation or semi-starvation; that we looked up to them for the very piece of cloth to cover our nakedness and to protect us against cold—nay, that we depended upon them for every necessary of life.

We are like the blind patient in *Aesop*. *Aesop's* blind man called in a physician who set about treating him, but finding him without sight, went on at the same time abstracting everything of value that his patient had in his house. When at last his sight returned to him, the blind man discovered that he had indeed recovered his sight, but had lost his everything. It is the same with us. By our century and a half's subjection to those whose valour, trade and commerce so deeply impressed us, and from whom we hoped for much progress in knowledge, our eyes have indeed been to some extent opened, but with the recovery of our sight we discover that many valuable things in our house have disappeared; that our religiousness, our reciprocal trust, our valour, our unity are no more; that our world-renowned arts have vanished, our prowess has disappeared, and our self-help is gone. We see that we have been robbed of everything. We now feel that we were better in that enchanted sleep, for the present consciousness of our situation is deeply painful to us. What we were! What we are and what we might have been! Small countries with a population of no more than 40 or 50 millions are now proudly treading the earth, while we 300 millions of Indians are living humble and obscure. Was it to behold this, then, that we awake from our sleep?

49. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 7th June publishes a poem, written

A poem in praise of Japan. by a correspondent, in which the Japanese are praised for their valour and patriotism. But the unfortunate Indians, says the writer, are no better than beggars. Oppressed and crushed down by poverty, they were sleeping so long, but Japan's example has roused them and put them on the path of duty. Know ye heroes of Japan that the Indians are your brethren, although they are now fallen through their past misdeeds.

PRATIJNA.
June 7th, 1905.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
May 25th, 1905.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 24th, 1905.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

GARJATBASINI,
May 27th, 1905.

STAR OF UTKAL,
May 27th, 1905.

STAR OF UTKAL.

STAR OF UTKAL,
May 27th, 1905.

UTKALDIPAKA.

UTKALDIPAKA,
May 27th, 1905.

UTKALDIPAKA.

UTKALDIPAKA.

50. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 25th May states that the temperature has risen very high and that rain is urgently required to help agricultural operations in Balasore.

51. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 24th May states that the temperature was high in the last week in Balasore and that rain is urgently wanted there.

52. The same paper states that the health of Balasore town is good.

53. The *Mayurbhanj* correspondent of the same paper states that cholera prevails in that State in such a virulent form as to cause a daily mortality of about 2.

54. The *Puri* correspondent of the same paper states that cholera prevails in Nolia Sahi in Puri town.

55. The same correspondent says that the temperature in Puri was high, though the sky was cloudy almost every day.

56. A correspondent of the same paper complains that the third-class passengers are put to great inconvenience at the Balasore railway station, as they are required to wait near the gate for a considerable time in the open air, exposed to the inclemency of the weather, before an officer comes to attend to their wants. This state of things is very oppressive during the rains. The attention of the Railway authorities is drawn to this public inconvenience in the hope that it may be removed as early as practicable.

57. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 27th May states that salt sells dearer than before in the Tributary States in spite of the reduction of the salt tax in the Mogalbandi and hopes that Government will make an enquiry into the conduct of salt merchants in this connection.

58. The *Barapali* correspondent of the same paper says that every evening the sky becomes cloudy and high winds blow away straw from the huts of poor people and do injury to the mango crop in that State.

59. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 27th May states that certain portions of the Municipal Act have been introduced into Baripada in Mayurbhanj.

60. The same paper is of opinion that the use of electric trams between the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and Jajpur, Bhubaneswar, Khandagiri and Puri will prove profitable, and hopes that Indian capitalists will come forward to invest money in the undertakings before the field is occupied by foreign adventurers.

61. The same paper hopes that everyone in Orissa will contribute his mite to relieve the distress of the people who have suffered by the recent earthquake in the Punjab.

62. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th May states that for the first three days of the last week the weather was very sultry.

63. Referring to the intention of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to visit ancient monuments in India, the same paper hopes that His Royal Highness will visit the temples of Bhubaneswar, Kanarak and Puri and other antiquities in Orissa.

64. The same paper very much regrets to note that the meeting held at Cuttack on the 20th instant to collect subscriptions for the help of the sufferers from earthquake in the Punjab was not very encouraging, as a limited number of gentlemen were present.

65. The same paper finds fault with the insufficient supply of one pice stamps needed for the despatch of newspapers in Cuttack, and hopes that the Postal and Treasury authorities will look to this in future.

Supply of one pice stamps in Cuttack.

66. The same paper says that the peasants in Jagatpur and its neighbouring villages are undergoing great inconvenience owing to the railway and canal passing through those villages and to their ploughs and carts being prohibited to pass along the embankments of the canal; that this grievance was made known to the District Collector and the Divisional Commissioner with little effect, and that a wooden bridge across the Pattamundai canal, a bridge across the Kendrapâra canal near the railway bridge, and permitting ploughs and carts to pass along the canal embankments will help the peasants to cultivate their lands properly. The writer hopes that the district authorities, including the Cuttack District Board, will see their way to removing this complaint of the peasants as soon as practicable.

67. The same paper regrets to learn that the teachers of primary schools in the Cuttack district are not paid regularly and that, as a consequence, their efficiency suffers. This is the more to be regretted as the inspecting staff has recently been strengthened. It is the bounden duty of the District Board concerned to see that the teachers are paid punctually.

68. Referring to the want of drinking-water experienced by travellers along the Dhenkanal-Angul road, as noticed in a previous report, the same paper requests the Deputy Commissioner of Angul to attend to this matter without delay, and suggests that the finances of Dhenkanal and Angul being in a satisfactory condition, wells or tanks may be sunk or excavated, as also trees planted along the road in question.

69. The same paper is extremely sorry to note that the *dharmasala* in front of the Jagannath Bullabh *math* at Puri, which afforded shelter to the poorest pilgrims, has been occupied by the Puri Municipality under the chairmanship of Mr. Blackwood against law and common justice. The Municipality did neither acquire the *dharmasala* under the Land Acquisition Act nor purchase it from its lawful owner, the Mahanta of Jagannath Bullabh *math*. It is even doubtful whether the Mahanta has the power to transfer it by gift or sale. The writer hopes that if the above facts be true, some public-spirited gentleman of Puri will take immediate steps to save the religious institution from the encroachment of the Puri Municipality. What pains the writer most is that such an unfortunate act should have been committed under the régime of such a good Collector as Mr. Blackwood.

ASSAM PAPERS.

70. The *Silchar* [Cachar] of the 29th May notices with approval the recent action of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy, in prohibiting the sale of native liquors on *hât* (fair) days and on Sunday evenings in that district, and regrets that the prohibition was not extended to Saturday evenings and to European liquors as well.

71. The same paper, while expressing approval of the general rule made by the Assam Administration that none but the Assamese are to be employed in the Government service in that province, suggests that an exception to this rule should be made in the case of the four or five Bengalis who have served as apprentices in the local offices without any remuneration for the last three or four years, in hopes of one day securing permanent employment.

72. The same paper reminds them who led the recent public protests against the appointment of Rai Shaheb Pramada Kumar Bose as Inspector of Schools, Surma Valley, that they should be thankful that the new office has gone to a native at all, instead of to a European or Eurasian as it might well have done; and, further, that in the Education Department there is a rule setting aside the age-limit qualification for entrance into Government service in favour of specially competent teachers from aided or unaided schools.

UTKALDIPKA.

UTKALDIPKA.

UTKALDIPKA.

UTKALDIPKA.

SILCHAR,
May 29th, 1905.

SILCHAR.

SILCHAR.

PARIDARSAK,
May 31st, 1905.

73. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 31st May suggests that in the event of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions being transferred to Assam, Sylhet, with its long record of Pauranic and historic associations, would form a most suitable site for the location of the office of a Divisional Commissioner for the Surma Valley, analogous to the one at Gauhati for the Brahmaputra Valley.

PARIDARSAK.

A suggested Commissioner for the Surma Valley.

74. The same paper complains that it is a general practice with lessees of cattle-pounds in Assam. cattle-pounds in Sylhet to offer a reward of an anna for each head of cattle brought in, as an inducement to chaukidars and others to wrongfully seize cattle and impound them. Reference is also made to the following allegations in connexion with the pound at Kurihal, under the jurisdiction of the Jagannathpur outpost in the Sunamganj subdivision :—

- (1) It has been proclaimed by beat of drum in the public market that a reward will be offered for each head of cattle brought in.
- (2) Certain persons in the employ of the pound-keeper go about seizing cattle from all places and impounding them. They are at work even at night.
- (3) When a cow or any other animal is released after payment of a fine, the usual receipt for the fine is not always granted.

PARIDARSAK.

75. The same paper in discussing the new Government rule about grants-in-aid to schools, which provides for one teacher for every thirty pupils, suggests that this rule should not be applied uniformly to primary, middle and high schools alike, in consideration of the fact that the number of subjects of study is different in each of these three classes of schools.

76. The same paper publishes the following in English :—

Civil Hospital Assistants in Assam.

The Government of India has of late partially improved the status of the police officers by giving effect to the recommendation to the Police Commission. His Excellency the Governor-General of India has sanctioned a substantial grant for the amelioration of the condition of the educational institutions in the province of Assam. The pay of the higher medical officers of India has been greatly raised. We understand that it is also under the contemplation of the Government to increase the pay of the clerks. All these movements on the part of the Government are very commendable indeed.

More than a quarter of a century ago the Hospital Assistants were called "native doctors." Now this abominable term has been withdrawn. Then in the medical schools Bengali medical books were taught and lectures delivered in Bengali. The course of study ranged over three years only. The term has now been increased to four years. At present in all medical schools English medical books are taught as in medical colleges. We understand more than a dozen students who have passed the F. A. Examination are now studying in the 1st year class of the Campbell Medical School in Calcutta. No student is now allowed to get admission into the Campbell Medical School of Calcutta and Temple Medical School of Dacca, unless he could pass the Entrance Examination. A student of ordinary merit can pass the B. A. or B. Sc. Examination in four years after the Entrance Examination. A candidate after passing the B. A. Examination can secure a Sub-Deputy Collectorship, and by gradual promotion he has every chance of being promoted to the rank of an E. A. Commissioner or a Deputy Magistrate, drawing a big salary of Rs. 600 or Rs. 800 a month, before he retires on pension. But a passed candidate from any medical school in India, though he has undergone a tedious and laborious training of four years after passing the University F. A. or Entrance Examination, can never aspire to a post carrying a salary of more than Rs. 70 a month at the time of pension. Men like Rai Shaheb Dr. Kailash Chandra Das, whose research in the matter of *kalajar* in Assam is well known to the Assam Administration, has retired on a full pension of Rs. 35 only. Is it not a gross injustice to the poor Hospital Assistant class?

It is therefore quite clear that the prospects and emoluments of the "Hospital Assistants" are too meagre for their arduous, laborious and responsible training in medical science.

It might be urged that the Hospital Assistants having the privilege of private practice earn a good deal besides their pay. But in our humble opinion it is merely a delusion in the case of most of them. There might be an exceptionally fortunate Hospital Assistant here and there, who has got a modest private practice, and in all Assam the number of such lucky persons can be counted on one's own fingers. In the case of the rest, private practice is absolutely nil. Hospital Assistants are always stationed chiefly in poor outlying districts or subdivisions in independent charges, where the inhabitants are too poor to pay for their medicines and much less for medical advice. And in towns to which they are fortunately posted such practice as exists is absorbed by members of the superior services. And if an official enquiry were to be held in this matter, our contentions, we are sure, would be fully borne out.

In the Punjab, compounders and ward orderlies can be appointed as Hospital Assistants after some years of good service, three years of medical training in the medical school, and passing the final Hospital Assistant Class Examination. In like manner some kind of arrangement may be made for Hospital Assistants whereby they could be appointed as Assistant Surgeons.

We beg to submit below our humble opinions and suggestions to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of Assam with a fervent prayer that His Honour would be pleased to move the Government of India for bettering the present status of the deserving Hospital Assistants :—

(1) The designation "Hospital Assistant" is not appropriate. "Hospital Assistant" might be construed to mean anything—a compounder, a ward servant or a dresser. We therefore suggest to alter the designation "Hospital Assistant" to one that may give them some professional status and dignity, as, for instance, "Deputy Physicians," "Assistant Physicians," Sub-Assistant Surgeons or "Extra Assistant Surgeons."

(2) "Hospital Assistant" has to do many clerical duties which stand in the way of devoting much of his time to matters professional. An English-qualified compounder should be appointed in every dispensary to help him in the clerical duties.

(3) English qualification test examination which is still in existence should be abolished, as it is superfluous and unnecessary under the present circumstances.

(4) To improve the status of the Hospital Assistants the enhancement of their pay is a reform which is urgently called for and ought not to be lost sight of, and with this view we propose the introduction of the following scale, which in our humble opinion will meet the requirements of the case to a great extent :—

					Rs.
5th grade	...	...	...	...	50
4th "	...	...	...	...	75
3rd "	...	...	...	...	100
2nd "	...	...	...	...	125
1st "	...	...	...	...	150
Senior grade	...	...	...	...	200

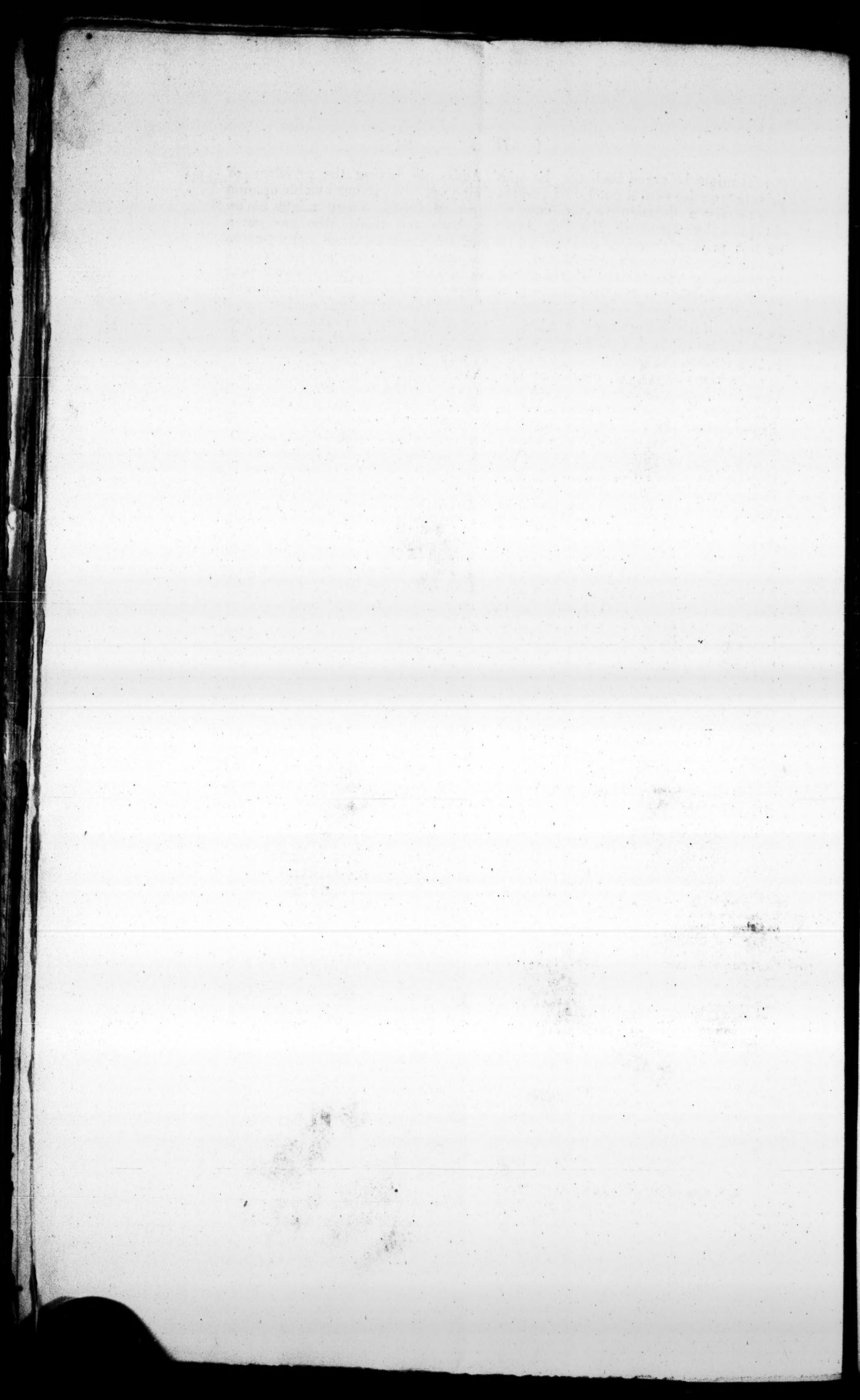
We like to revert to this subject in our next.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 10th June 1905.



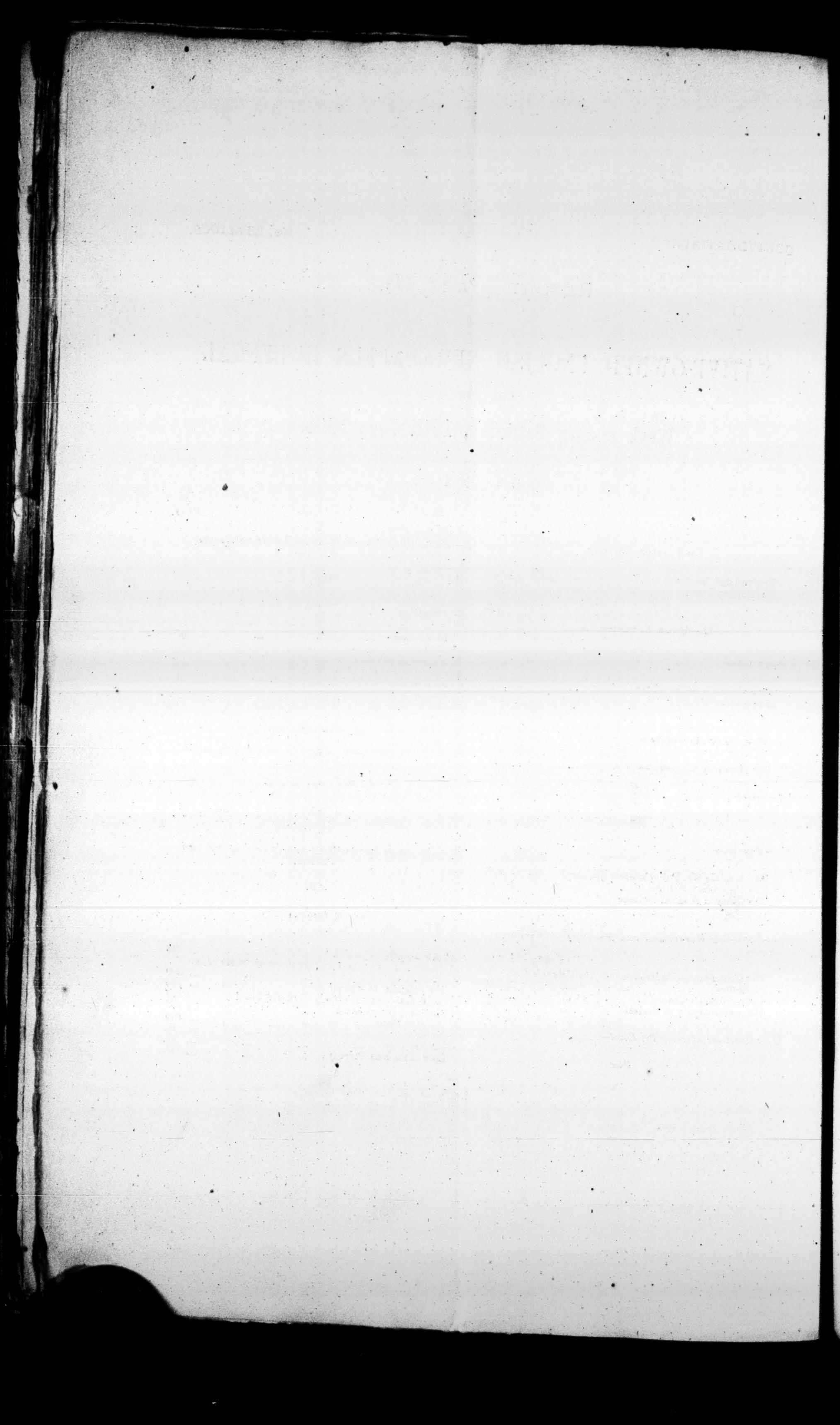
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[No. 23 of 1905.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 10th June 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

739. There was a time, writes the *Bengalee*, when England was considered a great nation even without the dependency of England and Russia. India, but to-day it is almost inconceivable how she could retain her place among the great Powers of the world if India were lost to her. Hence her solicitude to safeguard her Indian Empire as much as possible is not only quite excusable, but positively necessary, since Russia's one ambition is to establish her own supremacy in the East.

There is no doubt, continues the journal, that England has grave cause for fearing Russian aggression, but at the same time it is essential that she should keep up appearances. Speeches like that recently delivered by Mr. Balfour do not improve the situation, and the ravings of the "Russophobe Press" unnecessarily compromise the dignity of England. All these are signs of conscious inferiority and help to elate Russia. England should take a leaf out of the book of Japan, regarding whose "golden silence" and "superb reticence" much has been written. Let England make her preparations in silence and await the future with confidence.

740. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the Afghan Treaty is disappointing to a degree, as it merely confirms an agreement that was already in existence. The British Government has not of late been fortunate as regards its treaties, and this is amply demonstrated by the regrettable mission to Tibet and the useless mission to Afghanistan.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

741. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*'s Tamluk correspondent writes that one Dhan Patra has instituted criminal proceedings against the Sub-Inspector and some other police officers of Tamluk for having severely assaulted him in the execution of a warrant issued against him. The complainant explained to the police that he had already, in obedience to the warrant, made his appearance before the Subdivisional Officer, Tamluk, and had been enlarged on bail, but nevertheless they committed the alleged illegalities. The case is causing considerable excitement, and the result is anxiously awaited.

742. A correspondent writing to the *Indian Mirror* draws the attention of Mr. Halliday to the social evil in Cornwallis Street, and in the interests of public morality and decency begs the Acting Commissioner of Police to suppress it as speedily as possible. Cornwallis Street is in the vicinity of several educational institutions, and the presence of brothels cannot but have a most demoralising effect upon students, more particularly when their inmates are in the habit of thrusting themselves on the public gaze. The writer hopes that Mr. Halliday will follow the example of his popular Chief and remove this moral plague-spot.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

743. The *Indian Mirror* writes that great dissatisfaction prevails among the Honorary Magistrates of Alipore owing to appeals against their judgments being heard by an inexperienced and junior officer like Mr. Swan. These Honorary Magistrates exercise first class powers and their judicial experience extends over a period of ten years or more, so it cannot but be distasteful to them to have their judgments reviewed and criticised by an officer of about four years' standing. When Mr. Stevenson-Moore was District Magistrate of the 24-Parganas all such appeals were heard by him, but apparently the practice has since been changed, and out of respect to the feelings of these gentlemen, who render gratuitous service to Government, appeals against their decisions should be heard by an experienced officer.

BENGALEE,
23rd May 1905.

INDIAN MIRROR,
31st May 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st June 1905.

INDIAN MIRROR,
2nd June 1905.

INDIAN MIRROR,
31st May 1905.

(d)—*Education.*

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
30th May 1905.

744. The *Weekly Chronicle* writes that public opinion in Assam has been considerably exercised by the way in which the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller's latest jobbery. Hon'ble Mr. Fuller has been reorganising the Educational Service of that Province, and two public meetings have recently been held to protest against the jobberies that have been perpetrated. The Chief Commissioner's action in selecting a junior and inferior man to fill the newly-created post of Inspector of Schools for the Surma Valley districts, in supersession of the claims of no less than eight senior, qualified men, has given rise to great dissatisfaction, as they have thus been deprived of a prize appointment of the Assam Educational Service. The journal is completely at a loss to account for the scandalous selection.

NEW INDIA,
3rd June 1905.

745. *New India* is in favour of the scheme for the reorganisation of the Presidency College, which is to be converted into a residential institution and removed to the northern suburbs of the metropolis, somewhere near Tala. Some such measure has become absolutely necessary in the interests of the health of the students, as plague is always present in the vicinity of this institution. Whatever else the proposed scheme may or may not do, it will at least provide the College with extensive grounds and much healthier quarters for the residential pupils, and thus contribute to their mental and physical development.

BENGALEE,
6th June 1905.

746. The *Bengalee* objects to the proposal to raise the period of study for medical students from five to six years, as with the raising of the standard of admission, a young man cannot hope to practise his profession before he is 25 years, which is by no means a very brilliant outlook. Probably no other University or Medical School in any other part of the world exacts such a prolonged course of study.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th May 1905.

747. At the last meeting of the Corporation, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the inefficiency of the Conservancy Department, which is under the immediate control of the Chairman, was undisputedly proved, and the latter, while admitting the charge, attributed the breakdown to the fact that the department was undermanned. How long will this scandalous state of things continue? Taxes are realised with a vigour unknown in any other part of the world, but what benefits do the rate-payers receive in return? The water-supply is often insufficient, the thoroughfares in the native quarter of the town are miserably lighted, and the condition of the roads themselves is rendered positively dangerous with holes and ruts. Moreover, after a shower of rain they compare very favourably with the *kutcha* roads in the interior of a backward district. Added to these serious disadvantages, the conservancy is admittedly backward and inefficient. What can be a greater proof of the absolute failure of the Mackenzie Act?

BENGALEE,
31st May 1905.

748. The *Bengalee* writes that repeated representations have been made to the municipal authorities urging the removal of the hide-godowns from the heart of the town for purely sanitary reasons, but apparently the European hide merchants are a powerful and influential body and the municipal executive have found it prudent to leave them severely alone. This is borne out by Dr. Cook's reply to a recent complaint:—"I cannot take any special action involving the dislocation of the second largest industry in Calcutta. The policy I am following has the approval of the Chairman and the General Committee." This communication has at least one merit, namely, that of candour, for it shows clearly how utterly powerless the Municipality are to safeguard the interests and health of thousands of rate-payers. This indeed is a public grievance of which the victims are chiefly, if not exclusively, Indians, and is there not a single member of the General Committee who will take up the matter?

749. The *Telegraph's* Barisal correspondent writes that although the town abounds in ponds and tanks, khals and rivers, the people have very often to complain of want of good drinking-water. There are three reserved tanks, viz., the Jail tank, the Court of Wards tank, and the Judge's tank, but they are not looked after by the Municipality, with the result that they are contaminated with rank vegetation. These tanks are situated in the heart of the town, so that people freely resort to them. This alone should make the municipal authorities shake off their lethargy and improve these ponds, so as not to endanger the public health any longer.

TELEGRAPH,
2nd June 1905.

(h)—General.

750. The *Bengalee* characterises the Government Resolution on the Rolt case as a river of whitewash into which all the officials responsible for the prosecution of Mr. Rolt, from the Hon'ble Member of the Board downwards, have been plunged, leaving Mr. Nobody responsible for the institution of a shockingly bad case. To criticise the Resolution in detail would be sheer waste of time, as it is apparently intended to neutralise the strictures passed by Mr. Justice Henderson. Every one of the officers responsible is either exonerated or his past record of service is cited in extenuation of the offence. None are so blind as those that will not see.

BENGALEE,
26th May 1905.

751. The *Bengalee* regards the Government Resolution on the Rolt case in the light of a protest against the disparaging remarks passed by the High Court on the conduct of the prosecuting officers. Such a proceeding on the part of Government is certainly a very unusual one and is indicative of the marked tendency to minimise the authority of judicial verdicts as much as possible. The conflict is unseemly and does not help to promote the public respect for the great authority of the law, which a wise Administration would seek to foster.

BENGALEE,
1st June 1905.

The Resolution under notice finds the Commissioner's conduct "without reproach" and considers that Mr. Lea's motives "were throughout honourable." Further, the Government find "no ground for censuring Maulvi Shamsuzzoha, except on a comparatively minor point." Armed with this certificate from the head of the Administration, these officers may view with perfect indifference the censure passed on them by the High Court. Mr. Heard alone is freed from blame only partially. "He undoubtedly displayed," says the Resolution, "a prejudiced and unjudicial mind in regard to Mr. Rolt," but this censure is qualified by the observation that his attitude was not due to the unworthy motive attributed to him by Mr. Rolt and accepted by the learned Judge under a misapprehension of the facts. Such a Resolution is not calculated to enhance the dignity of the Judicial Bench, but is not this in keeping with the spirit of the times?

BENGALEE,
28th May 1905.

752. The *Bengalee* understands that it has been decided to remove the present Lunatic Asylum from Alipur to Berhampur, in the Murshidabad district, on the grounds that Calcutta is too unhealthy for the location of such an institution and that the present building is unsuitable. It is difficult to understand why Calcutta or its suburbs should be considered particularly unhealthy when they boast of the largest hospitals in the Province, and it is still more curious that the present Lunatic Asylum should have been found "unsuitable" after a period of 25 years. The question is whether Calcutta could afford to part with the only hospital it possesses for the treatment of mental diseases. Last year there were 122 admissions, of which 53 came from the metropolis and 37 from the 24-Parganas, that is, nearly 75 per cent. were residents of Calcutta and the outlying districts. The unwisdom of the transfer is thus abundantly clear, and instead of Calcutta being deprived of the only Asylum it possesses, Government should sanction the construction of a properly equipped hospital for the treatment of insanity.

INDIAN EMPIRE.
27th May 1905.

753. *The Indian Mirror* writes that it is argued by those who are in favour of the separation of the judicial and executive functions that as head of both the Police and Magistracy, the District Magistrate wields

immense authority and can either control the trial of cases before Subordinate Magistrates or convert himself into accuser and judge as he pleases. The *Mirror* endorses this view and rejects the contention of the opposition that as every district is divided into certain jurisdictions, each under the charge of a Subordinate Magistrate, it is not the District Magistrate who inquires into every criminal occurrence or instructs the police how to proceed with the case. This officer, no doubt, receives the reports of the inquiring Subordinate Magistrates, and if he is satisfied that the offence can be brought home to the accused he orders their prosecution. This is very true, says the journal, but is not the District Magistrate's judgment warped by the one-sided reports of the police? Then, again, are not the inquiring Magistrates the trying Magistrates in nine cases out of ten, and do they not unhesitatingly obey the orders of their superior officer in regard to the conviction of accused persons? Thus, under the present system of criminal administration, serious injustice is being done to the people, and this can only be remedied by separating the judicial and executive functions.

BENGALEE,
31st May 1905.

754. *The Bengalee* writes that the popular impression that the Partition Scheme which was to break up Bengal and divide the Bengalis, had been dropped, has been removed by the recent pronouncement of the *Standard* that

"the Secretary of State has sanctioned the Viceroy's scheme of transferring the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions to Assam." The scheme which has thus received sanction exceeds the requirements of the revised project, which included, besides the Chittagong Division, the districts of Dacca and Mymensingh. It seems that each stage of the discussion is attended with a further expansion of the scheme and a further curtailment of the old Province. Indians absolutely refuse to believe that considerations of administrative convenience demand the breaking-up of Bengal, no matter how high the authority that professes to urge it. Moreover, the hollowness of this plea has been completely established by men like Sir Henry Cotton and Sir Charles Stevens. It is a sense of fear on the part of the Government that is leading them to divide the Bengalis against themselves, and it behoves the entire nation to fight vigorously against such gross injustice.

NEW INDIA,
3rd June 1905.

755. *New India* writes that the Government of Sir Andrew Fraser is likely to find itself in an awkward predicament very soon, as Mr. Carey's friends are going to move for a reconsideration of his case. The journal considers that it was exceedingly unfortunate that the order degrading Mr. Carey should have appeared in the same *Gazette* as the Rolt Resolution, as the evident desire on the part of Government to whitewash the Purnea officials only served to enhance the undue severity of Mr. Carey's punishment, which cannot but lead the public to the conclusion that he lacks influential friends in the Secretariat. It is indeed not within the knowledge of any Indian publicist that magisterial vagaries had ever been so severely dealt with before.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BENGALEE,
23rd May 1905.

756. *The Bengalee* publishes the following story for the benefit of district *huzurs* who seem to think that the law exists for "An Ampthill anecdote." the masses and that they themselves are privileged to break it as often as they like. While Lord Ampthill's sons were out riding one day, they unwittingly trespassed into a reserved forest and broke three sticks with a view to quickening the pace of their horses. They were detected by a lynx-eyed forest ranger, and although he knew them to be the sons of the Governor, he severely lectured them on the impropriety of breaking the law, and concluded by threatening to hand them over to the police if they ever repeated the offence. The eldest of the boys did not relish this treatment and reported the conduct of the ranger to his father's Private Secretary, who in

turn brought the matter to the notice of the head of the district forest staff and the over-zealous ranger was transferred. The affair reached Lord Ampthill's ears quite accidentally, and His Excellency made his eldest son forward out of his pocket-money a reward to the ranger, in appreciation of the fearlessness he had shown in the performance of his duty. The reward was sent to the Collector of the district, who, by His Excellency's orders, presented it to the ranger during office hours, so as to give the affair a wide publicity.

757. The *Indian Mirror* asserts that it is the fatal predilection Indians have for service that is at the root of their national decadence. Ambition to fill the high offices of State

Hankering after service the greatest curse of the Indians.

and persistent efforts to gain that end are no doubt signs of intellectual advancement, but the question is whether this should be the sole object of the people. It must be borne in mind that the field of higher official employment is an exceedingly limited one, so that thousands of Indians who hold University degrees have to eke out a miserable existence as Government or mercantile clerks. This is the direct cause of the ever-increasing poverty of the people, and they can only regain their lost position by taking to trade and industrial enterprise. They should set themselves free from the servitude which now binds them hand and foot, strike out independently of the Government, and acquire wealth which they should devote to reviving decayed industries and developing the vast natural resources of their country.

758. Bengal, writes the *Weekly Chronicle*, will shortly be split asunder, as it is understood that the Secretary of State has

The partition of Bengal.

sanctioned Lord Curzon's scheme for transferring

the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions to Assam, which is to be ruled in future by a Lieutenant-Governor and be permitted to enjoy the dubious blessing of a Legislative Council. A considerable proportion of the population whom this measure affects will thus have a legitimate grievance, for they are being foisted on a local Administration with its head-quarters at Shillong, whereas in the past they have had, and must continue to have, direct business relations with Calcutta, the capital of India. That there has been less official resistance to the scheme than might have been expected is perhaps due to the fact that it was not launched until Sir James Bourdillon, a leading Bengal Civilian, was put out of the way and a puppet installed as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in the person of Sir Andrew Fraser. The chief argument trotted out by the Government in favour of the partition scheme is that Bengal is too heavy a charge for one man. This contention is stultified in view of the easy means of communication existing to-day, and more particularly as the millions of Bengal are, for the most part, simple cultivators.

759. Sir Andrew Fraser has repeatedly declared that he invariably consults representative Indians whenever he inauguates any public measure, but the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* doubts whether he followed this wise

Lady Fraser and the Lady Dufferin Fund.

plan when he permitted Lady Fraser to appeal to Indian ladies for pecuniary help in order to carry on the work of the Lady Dufferin Fund. His Honour should have known, continues the journal, that a request coming from the wife of the ruler of the Province amounts to a command which few would have the courage to disobey. Then, again, it is rather hard upon the people of the Province if on the one hand Sir Andrew is going to call upon the Bengal zamindars to contribute towards the Ranchi College scheme, and on the other Lady Fraser is going to make a collection for the benefit of the Lady Dufferin Fund, with which, by the way, the people have no sympathy whatever, based as it is on the fiction that Indian ladies do not allow themselves to be treated by male doctors! The *Patrika* thinks that officials and wives of officials should scrupulously avoid having anything to do with raising funds for public purposes, as subscriptions are thus bound to lose their voluntary character.

760. The latest acts alleged to have been committed by the 9th Lancers, The 9th Lancers again.

writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, are so atrocious that they are quite incredible. The journal rejects the accusation contained in the letter published in the *Morning Leader* of the 20th April last, that a Sergeant of the regiment was killed by a native in the bazar. Such a thing does not happen in India. Then, again, it is not likely that an Indian, accused of so serious a crime, would be enlarged on bail, the bail being only Rs. 200! The truth of the matter must be that something occurred which exasperated the Lancers and they did not hesitate to loot the bazar. The hatred which this regiment has conceived for the natives is intense, and it

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th May 1905.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
30th May 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st May 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st May 1905.

would not hesitate to seize every and any opportunity to wreak its vengeance on them for the humiliation it has been subjected to on their account. If, however, the facts that have been revealed are true, then a more serious state of things cannot be conceived. The 9th Lancers have not only publicly insulted the Viceroy, but they have also defied the law of the land and broken through so strict a thing as military discipline. In other countries the people are stronger than the soldiers, but in India the situation is reversed, thanks to the operation of the Arms Act and an established policy of repression.

BENGALEE,
2nd June 1905.

761. The *Bengalee* cannot believe in the mythical character of the alleged

Ibid.

misconduct of the 9th Lancers at Rawalpindi, in spite of the apparently inspired articles that are appearing in the Anglo-Indian papers emphatically denying the pronouncement of the *Morning Leader*, as it is inconceivable that this journal should have published a report of such grave import without satisfying itself as to its authenticity.

BENGALEE,
2nd June 1905.

762. The *Bengalee* writes that whereas the Mexican Government has almost succeeded in stamping out yellow fever and

Malaria.

were prevalent, the authorities in this country have in no way succeeded in checking the ravages of malaria, which is gradually emasculating the millions of India. The achievements of the Mexican Government were the result of resolute and unceasing efforts, and not only was a special medical staff organized, but anti-malaria brigades were at work in all directions. No reliance was placed in pice packets of quinine and the appointment of expensive Commissions that did everything but stamp out malaria! The *Bengalee* appeals to Sir Andrew Fraser to take up this vital question seriously, as it has been trifled with long enough.

BENGALEE,
2nd June 1905.

763. The *Bengalee* writes that beyond a purely official celebration which took place at Simla, Empire Day was passed

Empire Day.

unnoticed by the millions of India, and this will

continue to be the case until the policy inaugurated by the Proclamation of 1858 is re-established. To commemorate Empire Day with becoming sincerity involves the upholding of this policy, but to discard the latter and celebrate the day is a farce in which the educated community with their growing sense of self-respect can have no share. It was on the 24th May 1904, that the Government of India issued their now famous Resolution on the public service question, in which they rejected the principle embodied in the Queen's Proclamation and introduced race as the only qualification to hold office. When that Resolution is withdrawn and the Queen's beneficent policy re-established, then and only then will the Indian subjects have an Empire Day of their own which will evoke the deepest enthusiasm and which will be celebrated with a solemnity that will make it partake of the character of a religious function.

BENGALEE,
th June 1905.

764. The *Bengalee* writes that a more preposterous proposal could not have been made than to suggest Lord Milner's

Lord Milner as Viceroy!

name in connection with the Viceroyalty of India;

but what is more terrifying is that this calamitous suggestion might yet be realised, in which case King Log will have succeeded King Stork! In these circumstances it behoves every Indian who has the least spark of love for his country to fearlessly and courageously express his disapproval of a pro-Consul who has been stigmatised as a "gigantic failure" by friends and foes alike. Is it possible that one who is imbued with all the Bismarckian notions of government, one who has treated the Boers outrageously and trampled down the coloured races, one who has made no friends and lamentably failed to conciliate enemies, should be sent to govern the brightest jewel in the British Crown? Only a Cabinet of lunatics could be credited with such an outrageous piece of patronage. What the country wants is practical statesmen of great sagacity and sympathy, and it will never do to palm off on it such stupendous and admitted failures as Sir Henry Fowler at the India Office and Viscount Milner as Viceroy of India. Heaven forbid that the country should be visited with this dual calamity!

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.

OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 10th June 1905.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to the Inspr.-Genl. of Police, L. P.